

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 161

By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to recognize Johnnie Pilk on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of public service; and

WHEREAS, Johnnie Pilk is one such estimable person, who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, having provided forty years of exceptional service as an employee of Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park, Mrs. Pilk is taking a well-deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, Johnnie Pilk began her exemplary career with Tennessee State Parks as the first employee of Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park, hired when the park was dedicated in 1976 during our Nation's bicentennial; and

WHEREAS, the daughter of Betty and Claude Malone, Mrs. Pilk is a graduate of Elizabethton High School; she received secretarial training at Herman Robinson Technical School, East Tennessee State University, and Northeast State Community College; and

WHEREAS, Johnnie Pilk's "park family" describe their colleague as a dedicated professional who "exhibits unquestionable, selfless devotion and is consistently kind, respectful, understanding, caring, and helpful to all people; for those in need of a listening ear and a friend, she is always there."; and

WHEREAS, a highly regarded volunteer and leader within her community, Mrs. Pilk dedicates her time and many talents to numerous worthy organizations and is an active and devout member of her church; and

WHEREAS, Johnnie Pilk is perhaps most grateful for the love, companionship, and support she receives from her husband, Richard Pilk; she is the proud mother of one son, Lucas Pilk; and

WHEREAS, for forty years, Johnnie Pilk has been the "backbone and central heartbeat" of Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park, leading by example and becoming the "go to" person for anything and everything associated with the park; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Pilk exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout her estimable career, Johnnie Pilk has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of her colleagues and the citizens she so ably served; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we extend to Johnnie Pilk our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement, offering our deepest gratitude for her forty years of distinguished service with Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park and wishing her every continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.